


# Biomass and Infrastructure

Smurfit-Stone Container  
March 1, 2006

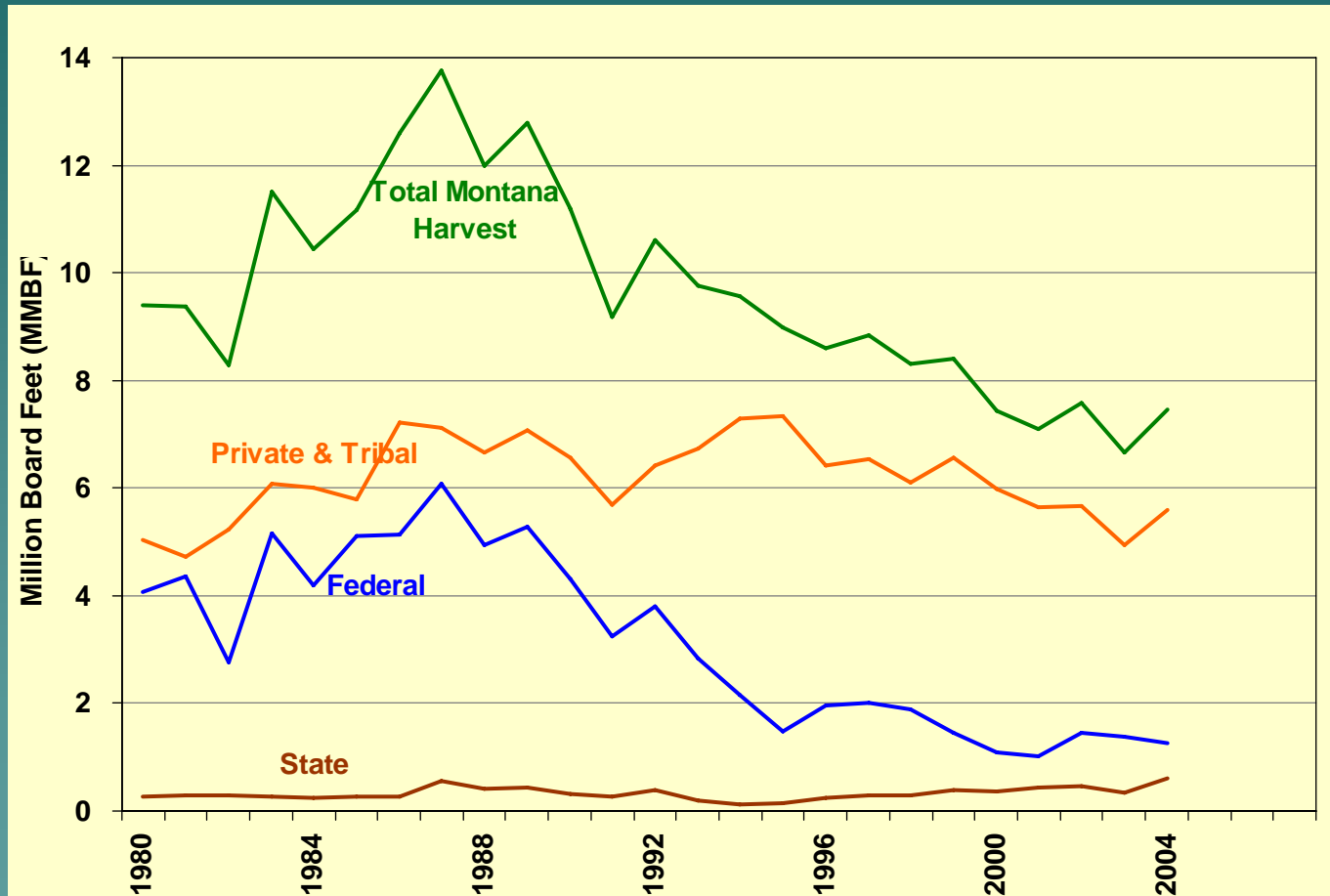
- ❑ Concern: Infrastructure
  - ❑ Frustration: Forest Health and Sustainability
  - ❑ What to do: Desired Future Condition
- 
- A stylized, layered mountain range graphic in shades of teal and blue, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

# CONCERNS

## Loss of Infrastructure (1989-2003)

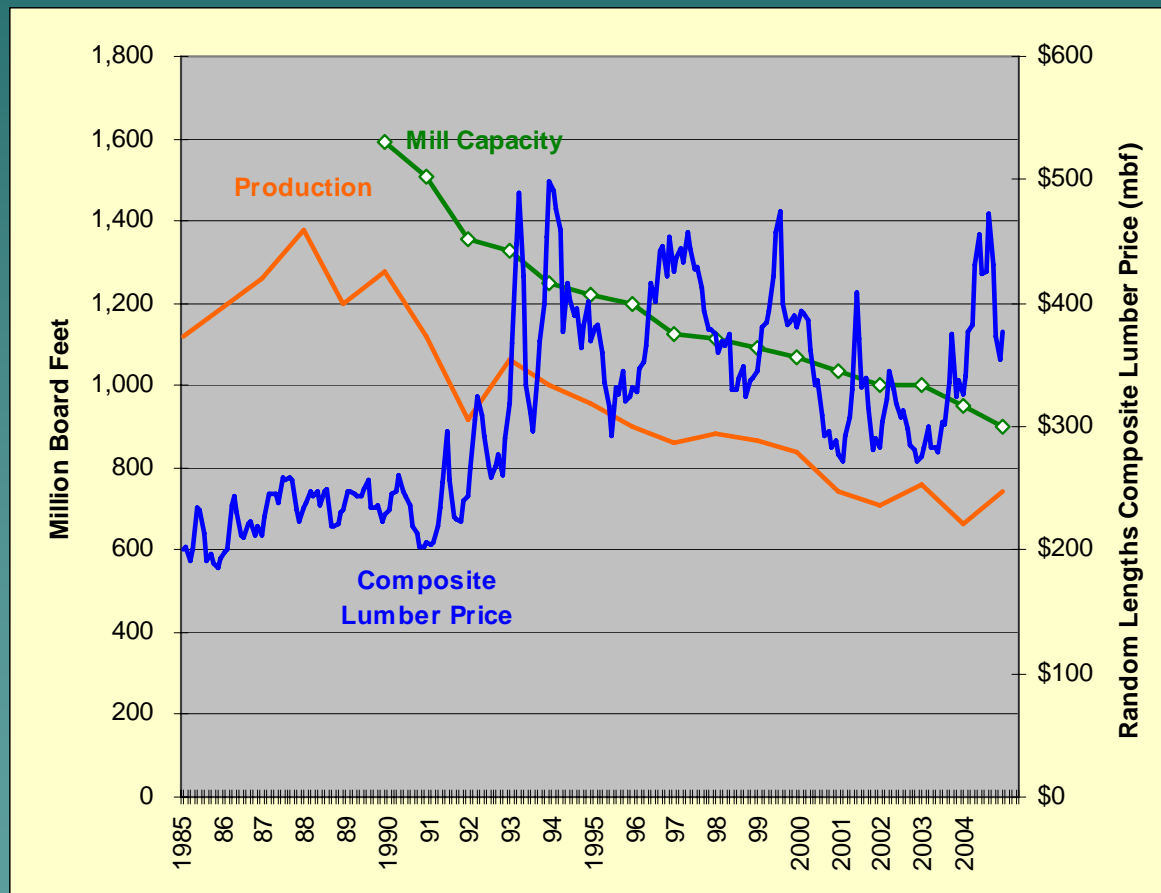


# Montana Annual Timber Harvest



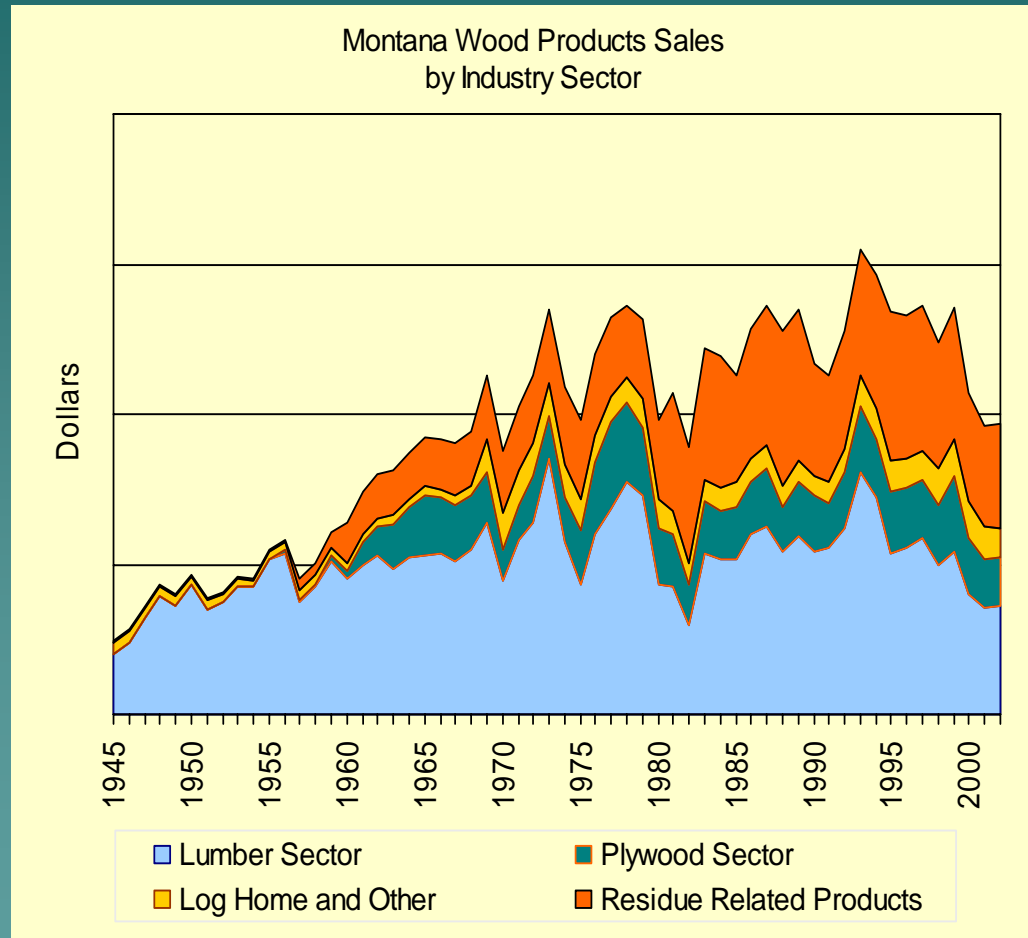
# Decline in Montana Mill Capacity

## Supply or Demand Limited?



# Infrastructure is more than sawmills

## A symbiotic relationship ...



### ◆ Mill Residue:

- Chips
- Sawdust
- Shavings
- Bark

### ◆ Wood Residue Converting Facilities:

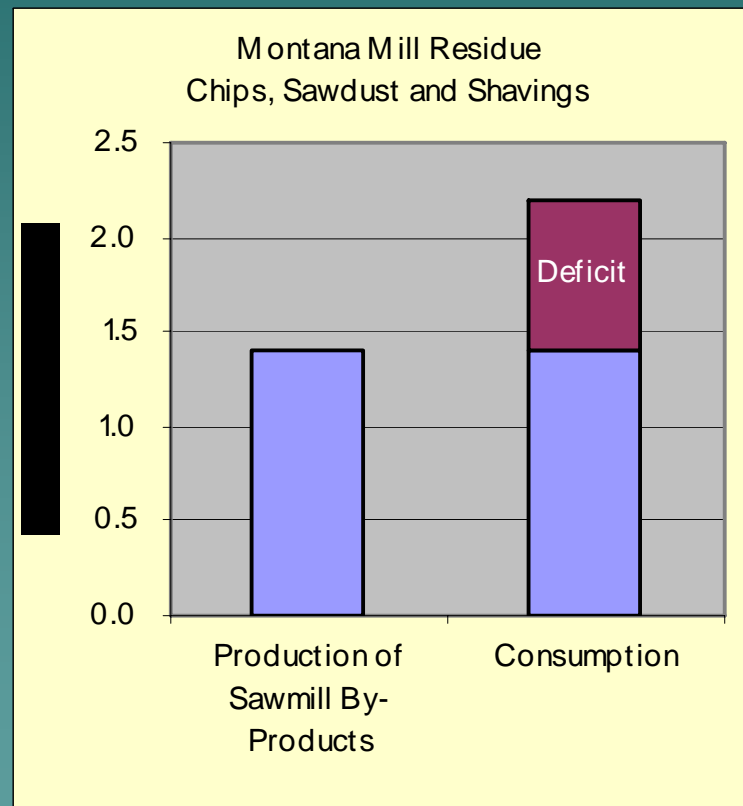
- Particleboard
- Medium Density Fiberboard
- Paper
- Wood Pellets
- Beauty Bark
- Hogfuel Boilers
- Firewood

### ◆ Logging Community

### ◆ Truckers

# Infrastructure is more than sawmills

The decline in Montana's timber harvest impacts mill residue.



# Not everyone does everything but everyone does something.



## Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation

	<u>Loads/Year*</u>	<u>Loads/Day</u>
◆ Wood Chips	34,000	135
◆ Pulplogs	16,000	75**
◆ Total Fiber	50,000	210
◆ Hogfuel	13,000***	50

\* Log truck equivalent of 27 Tons/Load.

\*\* Does not include two months down for spring breakup.

\*\*\* Includes bark from chipper.



# FRUSTRATION

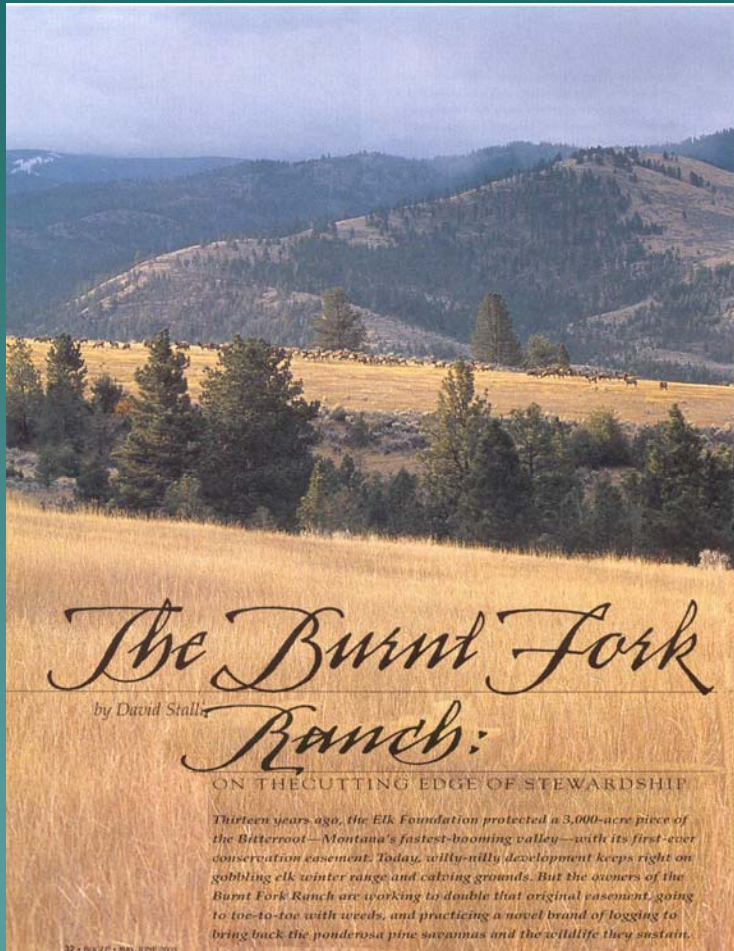
Infrastructure is tied to forest management.





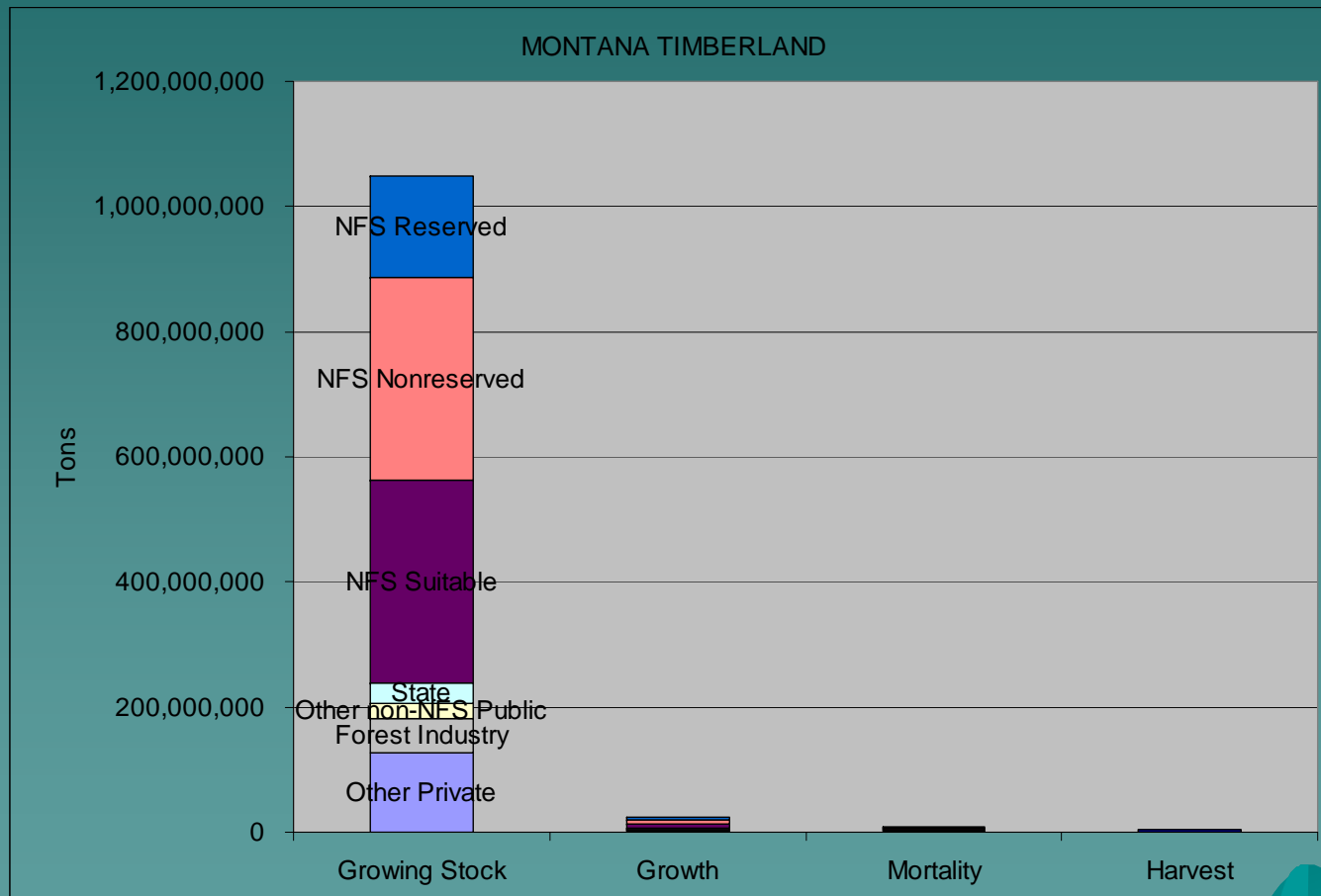
# We all want the same thing from our Forests. The question is how to get there.

- ◆ Wildlife
- ◆ Aesthetics
- ◆ Old growth
- ◆ Recreation
- ◆ Clean water
- ◆ Clean air
- ◆ Sustainable forest

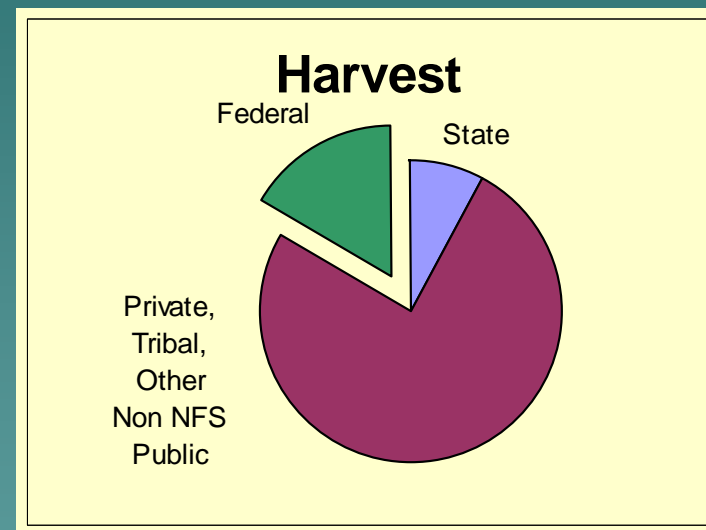
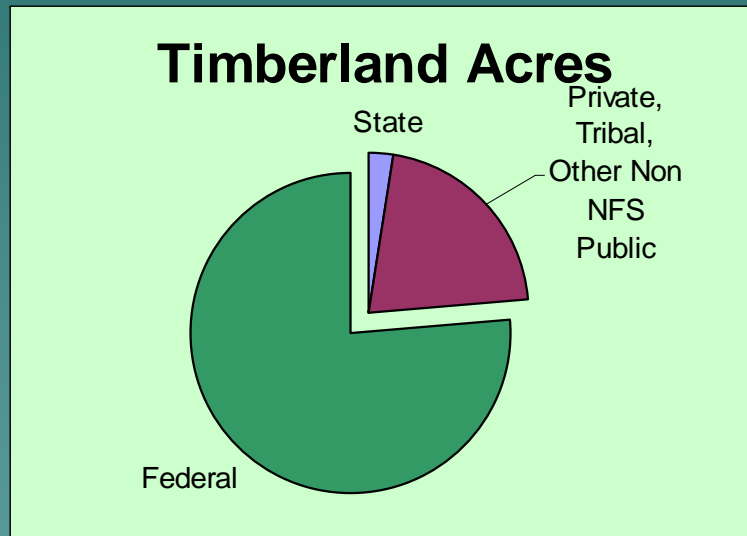


# Growth and Mortality

Adding millions of tons to the forest every year.

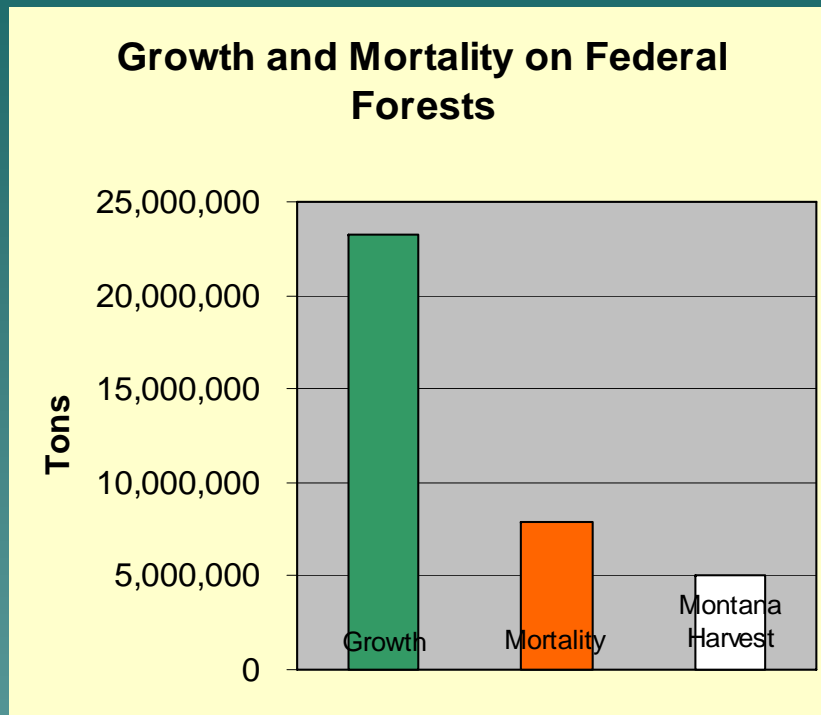


# Contribution to Montana's Wood Products Infrastructure by Ownership

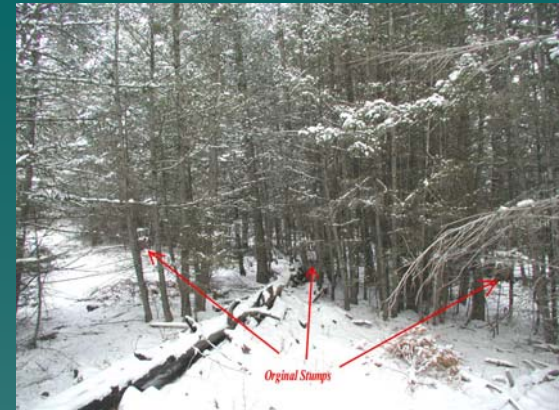


# Disturbance Ecology

The forest has changed.



- ◆ Not sustainable.
- ◆ Unbalanced, unnatural
- ◆ Headed for a crash.
- ◆ We have a lot of work to do.

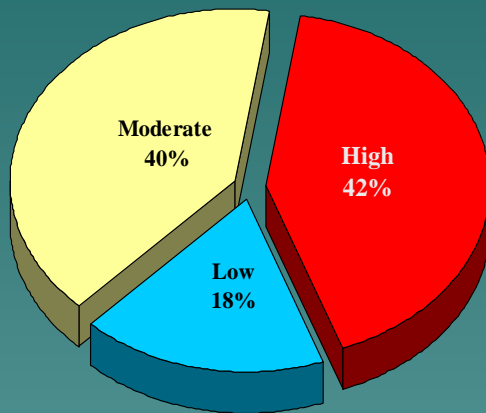




# Disturbance Ecology

Moving away from the normal fire cycle.

Montana Forest Lands by Fire Hazard



- ◆ Far more older-age timber stands than occurred historically.
  - ◆ Increased stand density
  - ◆ Prolonged drought
  - ◆ Insects and Disease
  - ◆ Not sustainable
- 
- ◆ 23 million forested acres
  - ◆ 18 million at moderate to high risk



# How Will The System Return to Balance?

It's a choice.



# The Cost of Doing Nothing

Catastrophic fire affects more than trees ...



- ◆ Old Growth
- ◆ Age Class Diversity
- ◆ Wildlife
- ◆ Endangered Species
- ◆ Erosion
- ◆ Air quality
- ◆ Recreation
- ◆ Water and sedimentation introduction to streams
- ◆ Forest succession
- ◆ Sustainability
- ◆ Etc.



Patrick Connell



# What do we want the forest to look like in 20 years? ...50 years?



- ◆ Focus on what is left.
- ◆ Restore Disturbance Activities
- ◆ Recognize the tools of forest management:
  - Sawlogs, pulplogs, slash and fire.



# Summary

- ◆ The infrastructure is more than sawmills.
  - Inter-reliance
  - At risk
- ◆ Montana forests are at risk.
  - The system will find balance.
  - Fire Kills.
- ◆ Infrastructure and forest management are inter-reliant.
  - The silvicultural tools of forest management are Montana's wood products.



# Summary (continued)



## ◆ What to do?

### – Maintain infrastructure

- ◆ Infrastructure and Forest Management are tied together
- ◆ The tools of forest management are sawlogs, pulplogs, slash, etc
- ◆ It is not just sawmills. It is log homes and posts and poles and particleboard and paper and logging and trucking and ...

### – We have a lot of work to do

- ◆ Restore disturbance activities to the forest.
- ◆ Quit poking around at the edges.
- ◆ 18 million acres
- ◆ Harvest 500mmbf annually from Montana federal lands.
- ◆ Recognize supply is the limiting factor, not demand.

### – Promote capital investment in wood products

- ◆ Expand and stabilize supply.